

A town hall meeting with
Congressman Mark Schauer



Why our current system is broken

- Since 2000: Health costs for small businesses have skyrocketed **129%**
- Since 2000: Health care premiums have **doubled**, while wages have gone up by 3%
- In 2008: There were **1,600** health care-related bankruptcies in our area
- In 2009: More than **176,900** Michiganders lost their health insurance benefits due to the economic crisis

If we do nothing

- Health care costs for Michigan families will continue to increase by **\$1,800 each year** for the next ten years
- Seniors will continue to fall into the Medicare Part D **donut hole**
- **Businesses** will continue to struggle with rising premiums
- Rising health care costs will continue to **add to the federal deficit**

Why I voted for the bill

- Our current system is unsustainable for families, seniors, businesses and the federal deficit
- Health care reform will offer every American access to quality, affordable health insurance

What it means for you

- For families: Lower health care expenses, peace of mind knowing you have coverage you can never lose
- For seniors: Eliminating the donut hole, no co-payments for preventive care, lengthening the life of Medicare
- For small businesses: Offers tax credits and access to affordable group rates through a health insurance exchange, which will lower costs and allow entrepreneurs to re-invest in their business

What it means for you

- According to an independent MIT study by economist Jonathan Gruber:
 - *“For those facing purchase in the non-group market, the House bill will deliver savings ranging from **\$470 for singles** to **\$1260 for families** – even without subsidies. The savings are much larger for lower income populations that receive premium credits.” [Nov. 2, 2009]*

What it means for our area

- In the 7th district of Michigan, the bill will:
 - Cover **36,000** uninsured residents
 - Improve employer-based coverage for **442,000** residents
 - Strengthen Medicare for **109,000** seniors
 - Eliminate the Donut Hole for **9,600** seniors
 - Allow **13,600** small businesses to obtain affordable coverage
 - Reduce the cost of uncompensated care by **\$94 million** for hospitals and doctors

How much does it cost?

- According to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, the bill costs \$894 billion over ten years
- It is fully paid for
- The plan will **reduce the federal deficit by \$109 billion** over the next decade

Mythbusters

What's not in the bill:

- A “government takeover”
- Health care for illegal aliens
- Federal funding for abortions
- Medicare cuts that hurt seniors
- “Death panels”

What is in the bill:

- Ends “pre-existing conditions”
- Addresses tort reform
- Allows for the sale of insurance across state lines
- Kids may stay on parents’ insurance until age 27

Don’t take my word for it

- Nonpartisan groups representing all walks of life support this bill:
 - AARP
 - National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare
 - Consumers Union
 - American Medical Association
 - American Nurses Association
 - American Cancer Society
 - National Farmers’ Union

Don't take my word for it

- Nonpartisan analysis online:
 - www.FactCheck.org
 - www.PolitiFact.com

More information available online:

www.schauer.house.gov



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- Read the bill
- Section-by-section analysis
- Fact sheets
- Interactive Q&A
- Share your thoughts



Thank you for participating!

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